



SOCER ACTION

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BIG LEAGUE OFF IN A FRENZY

By KYLE PATTERSON and LAURIE SCHWAB

Victorian State League stars are scrambling for transfers to the Philips League as Australia's national competition prepares to kick off on Friday night.

And three PSL matches have been rescheduled because APIA, Sydney City and St. George have to play on Sunday in the NSW Ampol Cup semi-finals which were washed out last weekend.

The reshuffle means Fitzroy and St. George meet at Olympic Park at 3 pm on Monday; Brisbane Lions and Sydney City clash at Perry Park, Brisbane, at 8 pm on Friday and APIA and West Adelaide meet at Marconi Oval at 8 pm on Friday.

Yakka Banovic of Essendon Croatia, rated among the finest goalkeepers in Australia, is the most prominent Victorian player seeking to move up into the Philips League.

Banovic, who has played for Victoria and his home State, South Australia, is determined to join Fitzroy.

His Croatian team mate, striker Tommy Cumming, also wants a transfer to a PSL club. Cumming won the 1978 Rothmans Medal and the Bill Fleming Player of the Year award.

State representative sweeper John Yzendoorn, who won the "Soccer Action" Victorian player of the year award for 1978, is one of two Slavia players eager to switch to the PSL.

The other is striker Jim Paton, top scorer in the State League last season. He was a star with Queen's Park in Scotland before joining Slavia in early 1978.

The opening round

The opening round of the 1979 Philips League season:

FRIDAY

APIA v. West Adelaide, Marconi Oval, 8 pm.

Brisbane Lions v. Sydney City, Perry Park, 8 pm.

SATURDAY

Sydney Olympic v Footscray, Barton Park, 3 pm.

SUNDAY

Canberra City v. Marconi, Bruce Stadium, 2.30 pm.

Newcastle KB Utd v. St. Melbourne, International Sports Centre, 2.30 pm.

Adelaide City v. Brisbane City, Olympic Sports Field, 2.30 pm.

MONDAY

Fitzroy v. St. George, Olympic Park, 3 pm.

Continued p.9

ΣΧΟΛΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΝΟΥ
ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΥ - ΣΕΛΙΣ 15.

Jugoslovenska
scena st. 14.

Big Eddie draws blood



Rugby club for PSL?

N S W R u g b y
L e a g u e c l u b , P a r r a -
matta is considering
e n t e r i n g a s o c c e r
t e a m i n t h e P h i l i p s
L e a g u e .

Footscray, South Mel-
bourne and Fitzroy know that
failure this year could spell
financial disaster.

Yakka Banovic would fur-
ther strengthen John Mar-
garitis' star-studded Fitzroy
team which already features
Jimmy Rooney, Branko
Buljevic, Jim Tansley, Gary
Cole and Jim Campbell.

Banovic is concerned that
a group of players at Croatia
is working against the club.
This is one of the reasons he
wants to leave.

Croatia manager Frank
Burin said this week:
"Yakka said he doesn't
want to stay with the club
when a group of players
threatens to undermine
Croatia's effort. He be-
lieves his reputation will
be harmed if he stays."

and ASF president Sir
Arthur George and
Cumberland Oval has been
shown to visiting FIFA officials
as one of the likely sites for
matches in the world youth
championships to be played
in Australia in 1981.

It was a nerve-wracking day for big
Eddie Krncevic. He wore the light blue of
Marconi for the first time, and he did so in
his home city, Melbourne, which was
curious whether he would justify the
\$9000 Marconi paid Essendon Croatia for
him.

The justification came when the 18-year-old youth
international scored the second goal in Marconi's 3-0
defeat of Footscray J.U.S.T. And he did it so stylishly,
shrugging off a challenge by Radoslav Jovicec (pic-
tured lying on the ground) and dribbling around goal-
keeper Steve Potter (pictured top) before slipping the
ball into the net. At right Krncevic is congratulated by
Mark Janjovics who scored the third goal. Pictures
by SAM BELEFONTE.



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Brisbane City has shown scant respect for the Philips League. While most other clubs have invested heavily to improve their playing staffs, the Queensland club seems content with the squad it has.

And that is mighty strange when it's considered Brisbane City was a runaway winner of the wooden spoon last season.

Sure, Brisbane City won the Philips Cup in 1978, making it two in a row in the knock-out competition, but it doesn't cover up the facts — Brisbane City cannot match the PSL big boys!

Winning the Philips Cup was a magnificent effort, but City did have the advantage of playing all its games, including the final, on its home ground.

Brisbane City will continue to struggle and will start the season off on the wrong foot with a loss to Rale Basic's Adelaide City.

Everything is against Brisbane winning its opening round match. The game is in Adelaide, Adelaide City will have a big following at the game, and Basic's players will be out to impress after a dismal 1978.

Brisbane's only consolation is that it has won four of five PSL meetings with Adelaide City.

Adelaide City v Brisbane City in Adelaide

Brisbane City has some good players. South American Roberto Echeverria is a skilful midfielder, backed up by Larry Gaffney and Frank Pimblett.

In defence, Brisbane has the solid Peter Tokes, new signing from Brisbane Lions George Potter and Australian X1 representative Steve Perry.

But defence isn't Brisbane City's worry. Last season the side could manage only 29 goals in 26 matches. Canberra City was as bad, scoring only 28.

Barry Kelso is a good striker, but Brisbane City lacks the fire and firepower in midfield and up front to worry opponents.

Hard graft and determination have brought Brisbane City considerable success, but as the standard of the PSL climbs, City will sink.

Adelaide City is hoping to return to the successful days of 1977. In the inaugural season, the South Australian club headed the league for several weeks.

Adelaide City finished third in 1977 but crashed to 10th last season. Of course, the feat of South Australian rivals West Adelaide in winning the league pained salt into Adelaide City's wounds.

Now Basic has the task of building Adelaide City into a power.

Johnny Nyskohus, Dixie Deans and Chris Kent will make up Adelaide City's forward line.

In midfield, Basic has Brian Northcote, an extremely well-balanced player, Socceroo Gary Marocchi, John Pein, Agenor Muniz, Sergio Motta and Robert Marwa. From six talented players, Basic must choose three to fill his midfield.

In defence, Bobby Russell and maybe Perin to fill the central positions.

Clearly the Adelaide City squad has depth, plus the important element of dynamic players. Muniz, Deans,

Johnny Nyskohus and Northcote can be explosive.

There will be a definite class difference between Adelaide City and Brisbane City, and it is the Queenslanders who will be sent home without a point.

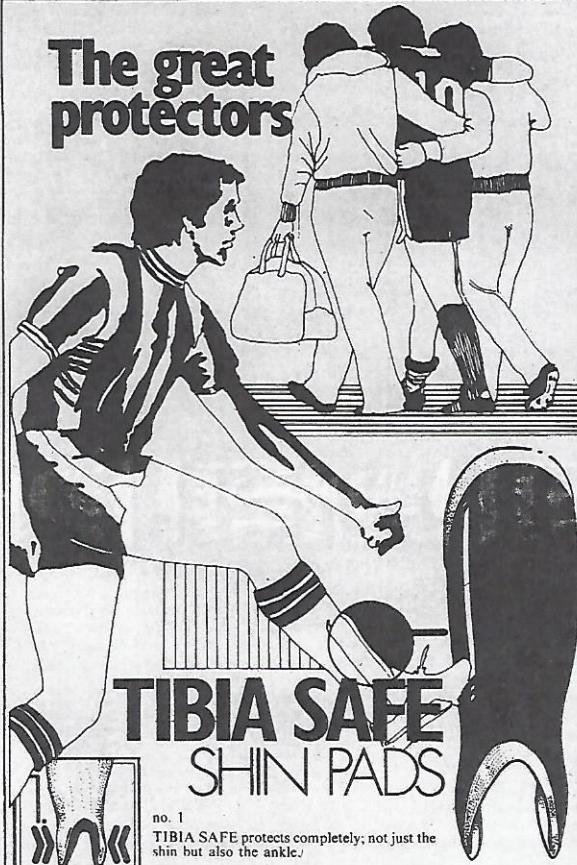
PREVIOUS RESULTS:
1977 — Adelaide City 1 Brisbane City 2 at Olympic Sportsfield, Adelaide. Brisbane City 1 Adelaide City 0 at Perry Park Brisbane.

1978 — Brisbane City 2 Adelaide City 1 at Perry Park, Adelaide City 3 Brisbane City 2 at Olympic Sportsfield.

OUR TIP: ADELAIDE CITY TO WIN



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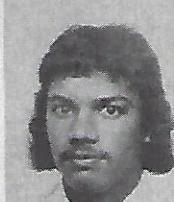
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A BIG YEAR FOR PAUL ONTONG?

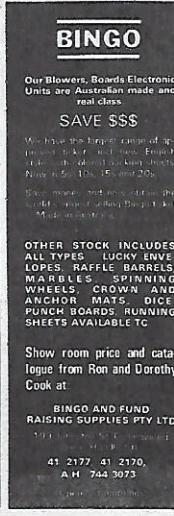
Brisbane Lions v. Sydney City in Brisbane



Paul Ontong



Joe Watson

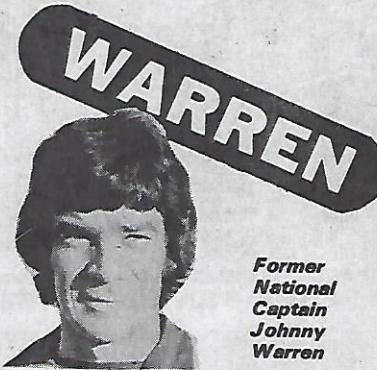


Bugner to put on a show?

European boxing champion Joe Bugner has agreed to stage a three-round exhibition bout at Sydney City's first home game against Adelaide City on March 18.

Apparently Muhammad Ali was asked first, but declined.

Sydney City is now studying the logistics of putting on the Bugner exhibition.



Former National Captain Johnny Warren

Best supporter to win a car

Sydney City has clinched the richest club sponsorship deal in the PSL.

The club announced at a Press conference at the Hakoah club in Bondi this week that Presto Smalldools had increased its level of sponsorship from last year and that additional sponsorship would be provided by City Ford, Australia's biggest Ford dealer.

The exact amount of Presto's financial backing was not disclosed, but it is more than \$30,000.

Presto is run by Sydney City's soccer director, Andre Lederer, and employs two of the players, Kevin Mullen and Ian Souness.

City Ford, which also sponsors glamorous Rugby League team Eastern Suburbs, will provide a \$7500 Ford sedan for Sydney City's "Supporter of the Year."

Here's how it works:

By buying City's 20-cent programme at matches, supporters can vote 3-2-1 for the club's Player of the Year. At the bottom of the form, they fill in their own name and address.

At the end of the year, the names go into a barrel and the "Supporter of the Year" is drawn on Rex Moseop's TV sports show.

The Player of the Year wins a trip for two to St. Tropez Paradise, flying TAA.

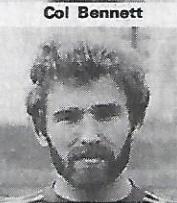
Meanwhile, arrangements are being made for the Lord Mayor's function at the town hall on March 15, to launch the new-look Sydney City team.

About 300 people have been invited, including soccer officials, players and Press people.

Results of previous games between the teams:

1977: Brisbane Lions 0 Sydney City 4, Sydney City 2 Brisbane Lions 0 1978: Sydney City 1 Brisbane Lions 3, Brisbane Lions 1 Sydney City 1

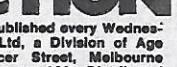
OUR TIP: SYDNEY CITY TO WIN.



Col Bennett



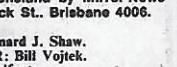
Alan Hughes



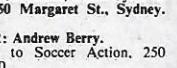
Ian Bruce or Mark Tronto



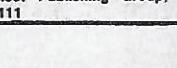
Henry Mowbray



Hilton Silva



Alan Kershaw



Alan Stevenson



Eddie Spearritt

Ian Lawrie

Ian Murray Barnes

Alan Niven

Steve O'Connor

Alan Stevens

Alan Weston

Alan Williams

Alan Wormald

Alan Young

Alan Zelenka

FIVE POSSIBLES FOR ROONEY'S MIDFIELD ARMY

Fitzroy v. St. George in Melbourne

Fitzroy's prize signing Jimmy Rooney seems permanently stuck in top gear.

The former Apia and Marconi midfield dynamo has been running his heart out on Australian pitches since he arrived here from Scotland in the late sixties, and although now 32 years old, he's showing no signs of letting up.

Fitzroy is hoping Rooney's energy and leadership qualities can bring the club success, but at the moment it is unclear as to which players will line up alongside Rooney.

There are five candidates vying for the two spots in midfield with Rooney. Not one of the five is assured a

place at the moment, and obviously coach **John Margeritis** will be having a long hard think before naming his midfield trio.

The candidates for the positions as Rooney's assistants are:

Jim Campbell — Campbell's goalscoring ability may win him one of the places, but his form in recent practice matches hasn't been good. But goals win games, and Campbell grabbed 12 last season to be Fitzroy's top goalscorer.

Only centre forwards **Ken**

Boden of Newcastle KB Utd and **Clive Eaton** (now Apia) of Western Suburbs scored more than Campbell in the league. They scored 14, which means Campbell's 12 from midfield is an incredible feat.

Pet Bannon — Bannon was captain of the team last season, and is a great motivator on the field. His strength allows him to stop many attacks in the midfield.

Ken Taylor — Taylor played as deep-lying mid-fielder last season, and did well in that position. He reads the game well, and supports intelligently.

Theo Selemadia — Was used as a winger last season, but with not much success. However, after coming under the watchful eye of national coach **Rudi Gutendorf**, he matured as a player. He's now far more confident, and will develop into a top mid-fielder.

Mike Micevski — A big-money signing from Marconi at the start of 1978, Micevski was a failure. He's in the outside running for a mid-field place.

Midfield aside, Fitzroy's team looks settled with the defence of **Arthur McMillan**, **Bob Provan**, **Jim O'Reilly** and **Jim Tanssey**. The forward line will be **Branko Buljevic**, **Gary Cole** and **Andy Bozikas**.

St George promises to be one of the improved teams of 1979. After being on the bottom for several weeks during last season, the Dragons recovered to finish in a respectable mid-table position.

But the arrival of top European coach **Joseph Galai** promises to speak a new era for St George.

He has transformed several of St George's players, and moulded into the team a couple of new signings.

Roy Cotton has been the most impressive of the new brigade. The former Brentford, Orient and Aldershot (all England) striker could make a mark this season.

Cotton is strong and fast, and loves to attack the ball anywhere near goal. He has the ability to shield the ball, and his lay-offs bring team mates into the game.

He has scored a few impressive goals, and the agres-



Fitzroy Utd's midfield dynamo Jimmy Rooney. Rooney will lead Fitzroy's midfield, but who will his partners be?



Fitzroy Utd's Socceroo defender Jim Tanssey gets set to pounce on the ball. He is watched by team mate Branko Buljevic.

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Tony Boskovic (above) models the new outfit to be worn by referees in the Philips League whose 1979 season kicks off on Saturday.

Dunlops Footwear has given each PSL referee two sets of uniform as part of a \$75,000 sponsorship.

PHILIPS SOCCER LEAGUE AUSTRALIA



Rudi looks for 'Roos

National coach Rudi Gutendorf will soon start travelling from State to State, casting his eagle eye over players good enough perhaps to become Socceroos.

Gutendorf, pictured above expressing a negative opinion to ASF president Sir Arthur George, will leave for Asia and Europe in August, to arrange matches for a tour by the national team.

— Picture by ALEX VESIC.



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Laumets and Davidson to miss out?

Newcastle KB Utd v. South Melbourne in Newcastle

Socceroo team-mates Jack Reilly and Peter Laumets and national under 19 squad members Alan Davidson and George Christopoulos will be fighting each other as South Melbourne prepares for its opening PSL fixture against Newcastle KB Utd.

But the fighting will only be for a place in the star-studded South Melbourne team.

Last year, Laumets and Reilly were selected in the Australian squad to play Greece at Olympic Park, Melbourne.

Laumets, then with Victorian State League club Preston Makedonia, got the nod from coach Jimmy Shoulder and made an excellent debut for the Socceroos.

A \$15,000 transfer deal took Laumets from Preston Makedonia to South Melbourne, where he has joined Reilly in a battle for the number one shirt.

Davidson and Christopoulos have been teammates since the young Soc-

ceroos tour of New Zealand late last season. Before that, the much-travelled pair went to Queenland together with The Victorian under 18 side for the Australian championships.

Christopoulos and Davidson recently returned from the under 19 team's disastrous tour of Paraguay.

The pair became teammates at club level when South Melbourne paid Altona City of the Victorian State League \$1,000 for the talented Davidson.

But now Christopoulos and Davidson look certain to be battling each other for the third midfield spot in the South Melbourne team.

Manager Dave MacLean



wouldn't commit himself about which midfield combination he would play against Newcastle.

But he gave a clue.

"To me, Alan Davidson isn't a defensive midfielder player," said MacLean. "He has a lot of flair, and he is better going forward than doing a defensive job."

So Sammy Wright will probably retain his place as a deep-lying midfielder. He performed well in that position last season and MacLean's comments on Davidson ruled out the possibility that the former Altona star would be vying for Wright's place.

With Wright certain to play in midfield, there are two other places to be filled.

Midfield dynamo Ken Drakeford will definitely play, leaving the third place a battle between Davidson and Christopoulos.

Christopoulos probably will be given the place because he played with South Melbourne last season. Davidson, still a relatively new face at the club, will start on the bench.

As for the Laumets/Reilly duel, experience should win out, resulting in Reilly getting the nod.

There are only two doubtful positions in the South Melbourne team, should Reilly and Christopoulos be chosen ahead of their rivals; the team will be:

JACK REILLY — The most experienced goalkeeper in Australia. Reilly has played professional football in Scotland and the USA, and in the 1974 World Cup finals. He showed his desire to continue playing last season when he won back his place in the team from Swedish import **John Hansen**. Still one of Australia's best.

CHRIS KALAFATIDIS — Normally a central defender, Kalafatidis looks destined to spend the season on right although he played brilliantly in the heart of the defence for Australia against Greece. Competition for the full back position could come from Mike Pye.

FRANK MUNRO — The former Wolves sweeper impressed with his early displays in Australia but hasn't matched the form since. Is still recovering from a knee



South Melbourne goalkeeper Jack Reilly in action against Preston Makedonia in a practice match. Picture by SAM BELFONTE.



Peter Laumets — at \$15,000 the most expensive goalkeeper in Australia.

strain, but should be fit for the Newcastle game.

JOHN BAXTER — A strong stopper, Baxter is the lynch-pin of the South Melbourne defence. Dominant in the air and a rugged tackler, Baxter has been South Melbourne's most consistent player.

TONY TURNER — An English import who has played several good games after a shaky start during which he was badly beaten by Joe Palmites of Footscray.

SAMMY WRIGHT — Hard-working midfielder who's always on hand to help his defence, start attacks and cover his team mates. A valuable player.

KEN DRAKEFORD — The pint-sized midfield ace could be the star of the PSL season. Fast, with great ball control and the ability to crack any defence, Drakeford will be South Melbourne's danger man.

GEORGE CHRISTOPPOULOS — Not so long ago was playing with Coburg in the Victorian Third Division, but has rocketed to fame. A strong midfielder with the ability to score goals.

DUNCAN CUMMINGS — A tall, powerful centre half, whose heading ability brought Newcastle many goals from corners and set-piece plays.

ROY DRINKWATER — A former New Zealand Player of the year, Drinkwater is Newcastle's captain. The well-built sweeper may not be the classiest defender in the league but he never stops pressuring opponents.

— A striker, whose deadly speed has left many full backs floundering. Likes having through balls to chase and a good finisher of attacking moves. Cummings is South's top scorer over the two PSL seasons.

ALUN EVANS — Any soccer fan confused by the term "target man" need only watch Evans play. Always offers himself to team mates with the ball, shields it excellently and lays off the ball well. The best centre forward in this country.

GEORGE CAMPBELL — The idol of South Melbourne's fans, Campbell's ball control is dazzling. He has pace and his passing is pinpoint.

Newcastle's team will include many of the players who served the club so well in its first season in the PSL in 1978.

PHIL DANDO — Experienced goalkeeper, played in New Zealand and with Brisbane Lions before joining Newcastle.

PETER WILLIS — Solid right back who performs his task with a minimum of fuss.

BILL SUMMERSCALES — A tall, powerful centre half, whose heading ability brought Newcastle many goals from corners and set-piece plays.

ROY DRINKWATER — A former New Zealand Player of the year, Drinkwater is Newcastle's captain. The well-built sweeper may not be the classiest defender in the league but he never stops pressuring opponents.

Opponents now team mates



While going through the "Soccer Action" archives we came across this pertinent picture of Australia's 1-0 victory over Wolverhampton Wanderers at Olympic Park on 1972.

It shows Australian goalkeeper Jack Reilly and Wolves centre back Frank Munro (light shirt) going up for the ball during a Wolves corner.

Reilly and Munro, who was Wolves' best player that day, are now team mates at South Melbourne.

Year by 'Soccer Action' and the ASPA last season. A brilliant forward, and PSL equal to score for 1978.

JIM MCBREEN — Came to Australia with Heys during the close season. His inclusion in Newcastle's forward line is expected to make it one of the most dangerous in the league.

This is only a likely Newcastle line-up.

Both teams have strong forward lines. South Melbourne's defence is doubtful, and Newcastle's midfield isn't as strong as it could be.

But Souths are better balanced, and should take off both points.

PREVIOUS RESULTS:
1978 — South Melbourne 3, Newcastle 0 at Middle Park, Melbourne — Newcastle 1, South Melbourne 1 at International Sports Field, Newcastle.

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Breaking away from Hilton Silva of Sydney City, is young George Christopoulos, who is vying with Alan Davidson for a place in Souths' midfield.

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Rampanti - Richards - Stone?



APIA v West Adelaide in Sydney

APIA's \$40,000 Italian import Rosario Rampanti is likely to join Peter Stone in midfield against 1978 PSL champion West Adelaide.

The other midfield spot will go to **Ray Richards** or **Brian O'Donnell**.

All are players of exceptional class, as they need to be to make an impression on West Adelaide's star duo **Peter Boyle** and **Neil McGachey**.

Rampanti alone guarantees APIA of a large crowd at its first PSL match.

He is from Bologna, which paid \$600,000 for him. He had previously played for Torino and has since been on loan to Brechia.

But is he as classy as **Roberto Vieri**, the former Italian First Division star who is now the midfield maestro of Marconi? The answer to that question is not likely to be supplied by this week's match. Obviously it will take Rampanti some weeks to produce his best.

It is also intriguing to ponder the role **Ray Richards** will play at APIA, following his free transfer from Marconi.

Richards, boasting his new slim look, is still among the most inspiring players in Australia but with **Peter Stone** and **Rampanti** certain to be selected, Richards faces still competition.

In Richard's own words, his main competitor, **Brian O'Donnell**, will emerge as one of the stars of the 1979 PSL competition. **Eric Carruthers** is also in line for that third midfield spot.

Up front, **Andy Scott** has earned automatic selection with some uncanny goal-scoring performances in the NSW Ampol Cup (including five goals in one game).

Ken Reed, bought from George Cross for \$8000, will improve from week to week. Like Scott when he was with Ringwood Willehelmina, Reed scored regularly in Victoria, but Reed did so over a much longer period.

He was the State League's top scorer in 1977 and, counting Cup goals, he was the leader again in 1978.

In short, the Scott-Reed striking partnership looks deadly indeed. Whether **John Vermong** or **Terry Butler** will provide the

wing service remains to be seen.

As is the case in midfield, coach **Jim Adam** is faced with an embarrassment of riches in attack.

The positions that do appear to have been filled are: **Greg Woodhouse** as goalkeeper, **Rod Skellern** as right back, **Warren Turnbull** for left back and **Peter Wilson** as sweeper.

Ian Rowden will probably line up as the other centre back, but **Richards** is capable of playing in that position. Whoever gets Adam's nod will face the daunting task of having to stop West Adelaide's gigantic striker **David Pillans** whose height makes him tower like a lighthouse above everyone else.

West Adelaide's team seems well settled, but coach **Tom Forde** must, like **Jim Adam**, make a few difficult decisions. For example, will **Graeme Honeyman** play alongside **McGachey** and **Boyle** in midfield, thus forcing **Gordon McCulloch** out of the team, or will Honeyman play up front, which could mean leaving out **Graham Norrie**.

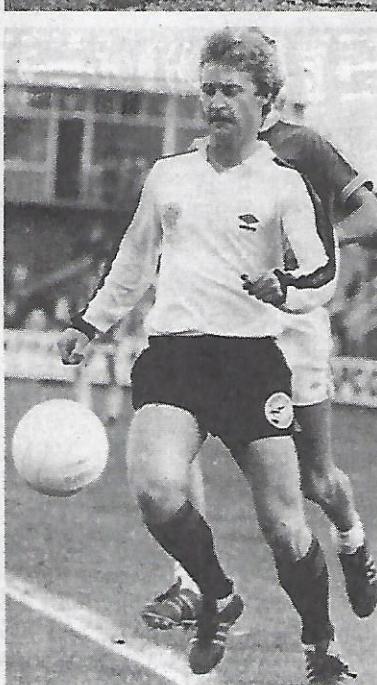
There are no decisions to be made about the defence. It is: **Martyn Crook**, **Barry Reynolds**, **Con Kambas**, **David Jones** and **Vic Bonzanic**.

This will be a match of monumental proportions because of the stature of the players involved. Five of them are Australian internationals — **Peter Wilson**, **Peter Stone**, **Terry Butler**, **Ray Richards** and **David Jones**, and **Con Kambas** is a former Greek international.

Although APIA has never before played against West Adelaide, many of its players were in the Western Suburbs team that met the South Australian giants.

Results of games between those two clubs were: 1978: West Subs 2 W, Adel 1 (Sydney), W. Adel 2 West Subs 0 (Adell). 1977: West Subs 1 W, Adel 1 (Sydney), Adel 0 West Subs 1 (Adell).

OUR TIP: WEST ADELAIDE TO WIN.



The APIA v West Adelaide match is likely to be decided by a monumental midfield battle featuring some of the finest players in Australia, including APIA's \$40,000 Italian recruit Rosario Rampanti. The likely West Adelaide line-up (left, top to bottom), is: Neil McGachey, Graham Honeyman and Peter Boyle. A possible APIA line-up is (right, to bottom): Rampanti, Ray Richards, Peter Stone.

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ATTACK Admiral



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MARCONI TO FACE BOGEY SIDE



Marconi forward Peter Sharne

Canberra City v Marconi in Canberra

Marconi has beaten Canberra only once in the Philips League, so despite Marconi's edge in class, this match at Bruce Stadium on Sunday is by no means a foregone conclusion.

In 1977 Canberra probably cost Marconi the championship by beating the Sydney team 1-0 at home and drawing 0-0 away.

And last year Canberra managed another scoreless draw at home before Marconi finally recorded its first win, 2-0, against its bogey team.

After much experimentation — most of it made necessary by injuries — coach **Les Scheinfug** finally has most of the Marconi stars available for selection.

With **Eddie Krcevic**, the \$7000 striker from Essendon Croatia, moving into the attack for his first PSL match, **Tony Henderson** will be freed for a defensive or midfield role.

Henderson himself wants to play as stopper, but it's unlikely he will get his wish, as Scheinfug quite rightly considers Henderson more valuable in a less restrictive role. It will be interesting to see how Henderson fares against the club from which he transferred late last year for \$14,000.

Roberto Vieri, who has recovered from injuries, will be back in midfield, alongside **Gary Byrne** and **and**

perhaps Henderson. That is a formidable midfield indeed, but Canberra should also be strong in that department, due to the presence of newcomer **Isaac Farrell**, from Motherwell in Scotland.

Farrell was brilliant in Canberra's shock 2-1 victory over South Melbourne a few weeks ago. Marconi had lost 1-3 to South Melbourne the previous week.

Mike Smith, 24, a centre back from Stoke City reserves, and new forward **George Bellay**, should also be rump cards for the reshaped Canberra.

Coach **Vic Fernandez** will have to find room for **Danny Moulis**, and **Mike Milovanovic** who missed the practice games while they were away with the Australian under 19 team.

But who will he drop to make room for them? From all reports, both **Ken Kawaleva** and **Luis Salgado** performed with distinction while the youngsters were away..

There is also doubt about whether **Brian Stoddart** and **Jim Cant** will play. These two regulars were not included in practice games, apparently because Fernandez did not consider them fit enough at that stage.

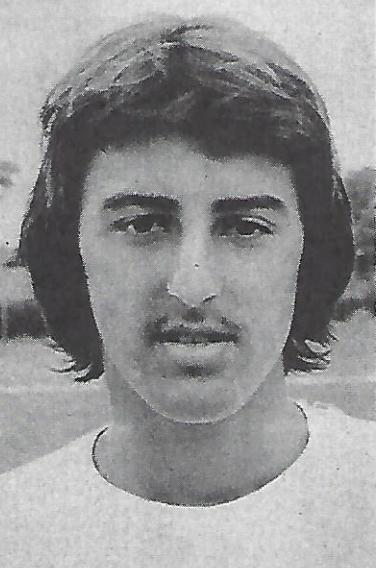
What is certain is that the 11 men who take the field will give it all they've got.

If Moulis plays, as he must, he'll probably mark Marconi's streak of white lightning. **Peter Sharne**, who hates playing against this close-marking Canberra full back.

If Sharne is subdued or if Vieri is prevented from giving Sharne the type of service on which the winger relies, Marconi will lose some of its sting.

However, in Krcevic, **Mark Jankovic**, **Gary Byrne** and **Henderson**, Marconi has the talent to compensate.

OUR TIP: MARCONI TO WIN.



Canberra City full back Danny Moulis.

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Marconi, standing from left: Barry Jones, Fabio Fabriani, Peter Brogan, Paul Degney, Mark Jankovics, John Russell, Tony Henderson. Front: Allan Maher, Roberto Vieri, Stuart Selvage, Peter Sharne, Ivo Prskalo.

Management needs more professionals

A gradual move to put professionals into management positions of our top clubs is a forward step in our soccer development.

The greatest push for more management expertise and commitment seems to be in Sydney.

Sydney City is at the front of the management push with **Harry Lakmeker** the general manager and **John Warren**, promotions manager. **Gerry Chaldi** is of course the chief coach and he is employed on a part-time basis.

Marconi now has a full-time general manager in **Livio Sartoretto** and a full-time manager-coach in **Les Scheinfug**.

At St George a new full-time sales manager, **Alan Barton**, was recently appointed. He joins the part-time general manager, **Les Bordacs**, and full-time chief coach, **Josef Golej**.

APIA has a full-time chief coach in **Jim Adam** but is getting by with part-time men, **Harry Ambrose** and **Dave McGuire** who look after secretarial and promotional matters respectively.

Canberra has recruited **Max Talbot**, last year's president at Newcastle KB United, to look after the new licensed club, but generally Canberra like the other capi-

tals, still relies on amateur committees to oversee the progress of their clubs.

I believe Sydney is taking the right step by putting its affairs into the hands of people whose living will stand or fall by their success with the clubs.

Unpaid committee members have neither the time nor the commitment that is needed to produce successful organisations today.

John Warren, **Alan Barton**, **Livio Sartoretto** and **Harry Lakmeker** are all totally committed to their clubs for their living.

Although Adelaide City has taken on **Rale Basic** on a full-time basis to oversee the development of soccer in the club, even more important is the development of the club itself.

Its management must be upgraded and what it has to offer sold more effectively to the public.

Full-time manager-coaches rarely survive more than a couple of seasons. A good general manager or promotions manager could expect to stay for a decade if he is doing well.



MIKE JOHNSON

With such continuity these men can introduce forward planning into clubs which currently lead such a precarious day-to-day existence.

Toongabbie, in NSW's State League, which is pushing for a Philips League place in the near future, has recognised the wisdom of forward planning and commitment.

It has two full-time executives in charge of its soccer affairs.

Full-time general manager is **Bill Parkhouse** who is supported by a full-time chief coach in **Mick Jones**.

One of the major reasons that Sydney clubs have upgraded their management is sheer necessity caused by falling crowds.

St George and Sydney City particularly face an enormous challenge to win support to sustain a Philips League team.

Both have thriving social clubs which pay the wages of the full-time men and not all interstate clubs have such an advantage.

However, most do have a captive spectator support of reasonable proportions, plus social clubs of some sort which could provide finance to pay the wages of full-time management men.

No organisation can expect to grow without capable, committed professionals in management in today's highly competitive world.

Our soccer clubs compete with other football codes and a whole range of other sports and pastimes for the attention and patronage of the public.

To continue to leave club management in the hands of amateurs who run soccer as a hobby would be unprogressive and without progress you start to go backward.

There will continue to be an important need for the amateur committee-man in the less vital aspects of day-to-day club management.

But the overall development and promotion of the club must be in the hands of skilled professionals whose livelihood depends on them doing a successful job.

Jovicic and co. have the class



Two of Footscray JUST's imported players: Slobodan Jovanovic (left) and Radoslav Jovicic.



Dave McIntosh

Peter Ollerton

Clive Eaton



Footscray defender Jim Kondaros (left) clears the ball away from South Melbourne winger George Campbell. In the background is Footscray midfielder Joe Picioane.

A battle of giants will decide the outcome of Sydney Olympic's home match against Victoria's glamor side of the moment, Footscray J.U.S.T.

The giants are Olympic's twin strikers **Dave McIntosh** and **Clive Eaton** and Footscray's centre backs **Jim Kondaros** and **Radoslav Jovicic**.

If Kondaros and Jovicic can contain these lethal goalcorers, Footscray will win.

The Victorians are renowned as the most skilful team in the league. Their overlapping full backs **Zoran Illoski** and **Zdravko Jovicic**, plus linkmen **Andrija Riedl**, **Joe Picioane** and **Slobodan Jovanovic**, should give Footscray a decided territorial advantage in midfield and a lion's share of the ball.

This will ensure a steady supply of passes to front-runners **Joe Palinkas**, **Peter Ollerton** and **Mendo Ristovski**.

But all this could come to nought if Eaton and McIntosh are allowed to break through in counter-attacks, fed by dangerous winger **Derek Laing**.

The return of experienced **George Gibson**, who has been out for a long time with a broken leg, will add steel to the Olympic defence, but even with Gibson there to organise play, the back line will find itself stretched to breaking point by Ristovski and Palinkas.

Footscray has long cried out for strength and height in the middle of the attack. Ol-

Sydney Olympic v Footscray in Sydney

Ierton now provides these qualities, which makes Footscray a much more formidable outfit than it was last season.

But Footscray's real strength is its ability to come from behind, to storm forward in lightning-sharp counter-attacks. And watch Jovicic! He will be a sensation this year just as Lujic was a sensation in 1978.

Jovicic is easily the most stylish sweeper in Australia. He is tall, strong, skilful. He passes with pin-point accuracy over 30 and 40 metres — with the outside of his foot — he gets involved in attacking moves.

He can launch powerful shots at goal.

Coach **Cedo Cirkovic** has had his team working on filling gaps left in the back by advancing defenders. Thus, if Jovicic or one of the full backs comes forward, there is always a man available to cover.

In short, Plavi, the Blues, should have a hell of a sea-son!

Olympic, under **Joe Marston**, looks better than it did last year, due to the inclusion of Eaton, who was bought from Western Suburbs, and the return of the mighty Gibson.

Alan Ainslie, in midfield last year, finds himself at full back now and it appears that Marston will use young **Peter Raskopoulos** who was neglected for most of last season.

Gary Meler remains one of the finest goalkeepers in

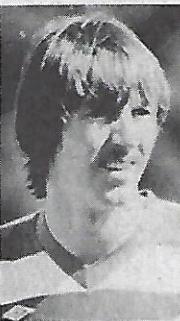
the league, but Footscray's import **Steve Potter**, who played almost 200 games with Swansea in England, is even better.

Richie Bell, the Olympic centre back, will have his hands full with Ollerton while midfielders **Mike Cross**, Raskopoulos and **Alex Jamieson** face a formidable task against Ristic, Pacionane and Jovanovic.

Neither team has an advantage over the other on the basis of scores since the beginning of the PSL. The scores are:

1977: Footscray 1 Olympic 0, Olympic 0 Footscray 0; 1978: Olympic 1 Footscray 1, Footscray 2 Olympic 3.

Our tip: Footscray to win



Richie Bell

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NSW AMPOL CUP

Krnceanic goals,
JUST falters

St George was given a reprieve from the semi-final showdown against Melita as a result of the torrential rain in Sydney. The team is still the one to beat in this year's Ampol Cup, despite its poor showing against Croatia. Pictured from left to right: standing: Cotton, R. O'Shea, J. O'Shea, Coe, Frazer, Grosse, Duarte, Hensman. Front: Harris, Morgan, Utejsenovic, M. O'Shea, O'Connor, Barton.

NSW Cup delayed

Torrential rain caused the postponement of the semi-finals of the NSW Ampol Cup. Sydney City, APIA, Melita Eagles and St George are to play the semi-finals at Wentworth Park from 1.15 pm on Sunday.

Wentworth Park looked a sorry sight this morning of the proposed semi-finals, and it is unlikely to look any better before next weekend.

Assuming all goes according to plan, the semi-final battles in the Ampol Cup will see the following line-ups:

SYDNEY CITY

Pezzano
Kershaw, Trenter, O'Connor, Thompson
Stevenson, Souness, Barnes
Watson, T. Smith, Silva

APIA
Woodhouse
Skellern, Rowden, Wilson, Turnbull
O'Donnell, Stone, Richards
Butler, Scott, Vernon

MELITA EAGLES
Bracklow
Ververis, Mikas, Yamine, McDonald
Parker, Darville, McAusland
D. Allan, Farrugia, Jones

ST GEORGE

Coe
Harris, Utejsenovic, Della Picca, Grosse
Matic, J. O'Shea, Gnavi
Duarte, Cotton, O'Connor

WILLIAMS INJURED

By PETER WINDSOR

Canberra City has won the wrangle surrounding the future of their three star, much-in-demand teenagers and Australian under-19 squad representatives Stephen Hogg, Danny Moulis and Mike Milovanovic.

All have re-signed for Canberra for 1979 with Moulis having had a substantial offer to join Sydney City and Hogg a similar sound offer to join Brisbane City.

Milovanovic has also had offers to join other PSL clubs.

This trio are products of Canberra soccer and were three of the best players in Australia's recent battles in Paraguay.

The other man who finally put his name on the dotted line for Canberra this week was Harry Williams, long-time St

Fielding, 25, from top Irish club Sligo Rovers, will arrive in Australia this weekend.

Said City administrator Max Talbot: "He comes with a great reputation. He is rated one of the best halfbacks in Irish soccer."

City has Fielding until the season's end — if not for Philips Cup games he may be back in Ireland by August 29.

Last week Canberra City, always a progressive and go-ahead club, scored great success with its media night.

All arms of the Canberra media attended to hear Charles Perkins outline the club's plans, detail close season signings and receive a 40-page guide to the club.

The media guide will be of positive benefit, it includes:

- The history of Canberra City
- A handy ready reckoner of all match statistics

- A photographic lift-out of all Canberra City players with the exception of Smith who arrived after the collage picture was taken
- All telephone numbers of all club contacts

More than 30 people attended the evening in which Perkins said: "Canberra City has come of age. We want everyone to think of Canberra City not as just a soccer club, but a club that can promote Canberra, the national capital."

"You are, after all, the only Canberra sporting club to participate in any regular national competition."

"We want the sporting public of Canberra to get behind us."

The other major coup was that the foreword came from the Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser, who is Canberra City's patron.

The Prime Minister said: "I have been impressed by the initiative and effort that established Canberra City soccer club. Dedication, and just plain hard work, by directors, players, coaches and supporters alike, have been responsible for the club's emergence as a real force in the soccer world."

"I am fitting tribute to the club that Canberra City had three representatives in the Australian under-19 team, which, I understand, will form the nucleus of the national team competing for a place in the final rounds of the World Cup in Spain in 1982."

"The establishment of a national soccer league with teams from major cities competing on a weekly basis is an important development in Australian sport."

"As patron of Canberra City soccer club I am delighted to offer my support for the club in promoting top class soccer in this region."

"I wish the club the best of luck in the years ahead."

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MILAN MIJUSKOVIC
Manager



Slobodan Jovanovic of Footscray slide tackles Marconi forward Mark Jankovics during the teams' practice match at Schintler Reserve last Sunday.

4 for sale

Striker Dragan Vasic and right back Paul Hyne have been placed on the transfer list by Footscray J.U.S.T.

Vasic was imported from Yugoslavia late in 1977.

Hyne, an Englishman who played for Bremerhaven in the German Second Division, was imported early this year together with Steve Carpenter, a midfielder.

Also on J.U.S.T.'s transfer list is brilliant goalkeeper Dennis Boland who was among the leaders last year in the voting for the Yugoslav Airlines — "Soccer Action" Player of the Year award.

Mike O'Hare, the goalkeeper who previously played for Haia, Koah, Slavia and Victoria, also wants a transfer from J.U.S.T.

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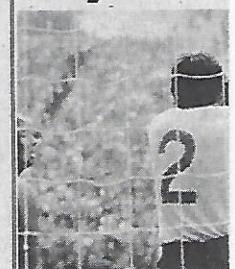
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Club — 97 2410

he is still one of the shrewdest sweepers in the national league. Gary Byrne showed great improvement in midweek and it shouldn't be long before he's back to his best international form.

Tony Henderson played an efficient midfield game and remains Marconi's top scorer. However, coach Leo Scheinfeld is still looking forward to the day that he can use Henderson as centre back.

The great Roberto Vieri did not make the trip to Melbourne. Scheinfeld said that Vieri was not fully fit. — LAURIE SCHWAB.

Gerd si
by Soc

Going back to West Germany in 1974 for the World Cup finals has to rate as the most memorable period of my football career.

However, had I known just how hectic it was going to be, I might well have been a little daunted by the trip. It was unbelievable the interest shown in the Australian team and myself during that trip.

It all started early in 1974 after we qualified, when a German television crew landed in Australia to make a sports documentary on how I lived and spent my time, both at work and training, as well as at home.

This was really the start of the mass media coverage I seemed to attract before and during the World Cup series. The show was broadcast in West Germany as a prelude to the World Cup finals, and I found when I arrived there I was a nationally-known figure.

Before we even left Australia, a newspaper from Hamburg was calling by telephone each week for me to write an article for the sports section. This was, I must admit, a little overwhelming when compared to the media coverage (and the Australian team in general) was getting at home.

Being born in Germany helped a lot in this regard, because I knew about the country and spoke the language, which was most important. This gave the Australians an outlet, publicity wise, in West Germany.

The man who did the film on me, was Peter Bizer, West Germany's top television interviewer, and one of the top journalists.

In the past he had written books about Guenther Netzer and done a top documentary on George Best.

AUSTRALIAN
AMPOL
OWNED

By Meno
Toutsidis

West Adelaide grabbed the Ampol cup with a dramatic 2-1 extra time victory over a gallant Croatia at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Croatia, which had not lost a game, held the PSL champions to a goal-less draw until extra time.

West were a cut above Croatia for most of the match, but simply could not turn their superiority into goals.

Vic Bozanic, the hero of West's PSL title match against Adelaide City last August, put them on the victory trail with an 83rd minute goal.

The PSL champions began at a furious pace and dissected Croatia with some precise passing with Peter Boyle stamping his authority in midfield.

West's big downfall, however, was breaking down Croatia's defence. They continually worked their way around the defence, but their finishing was poor.

South Australian Ampol Cup

BOZANIC AGAIN THE HERO

WEST ADELAIDE 2
CROATIA 1

Goals: Bozanic 1-0 (83), McGregor 2-0 (100), Pope 2-1 (108).

WEST: Crook 7, Bozanic 8, Reynolds 7 (Koulianos), McGachey 8, Kambas 7, Jones 7, Boyle 8, McCulloch 7, Honeyman 7 (Tymczyn), McGregor 8, Norris 7.

CROATIA: Przybelski 7, Holland 7, Iotan 8, Toth 8, Williams 7, Bendall 7, Pope 7, Harrow 7, Rogosic 5, Thompson 7, Hayes 7.

However Honeyman came close with a firm shot after cutting three defenders in the 75th minute.

But from that point Croatia came out of their defensive shell and with West beginning to tire, the match could have swung either way.

Ben Rogosic blew a golden opportunity in the 67th minute when he broke away and with Martyn Crook well off his line shot wide.

West coach Tom Forde made a crucial change for the start of extra time and it swung the match for them.

Graham Honeyman, who was not fully fit, came off and was replaced by Peter Rymczewski, who moved into defence which allowed Bozanic to join Boyle and McGachey in midfield.

Within three minutes Bozanic gave them the lead with a superb goal.

McGregor inspired the move with a deft pass and Bozanic took one step before hitting a scorching 15 metre shot into the roof of the net which left Jack Przybelski transfixed on his line.

McGregor added the second goal in the 20th minute of extra time with a powerful rising shot from outside the penalty area.

John Pope reduced the deficit when he caught Crook off his line and lobbed it over his head from 20 metres.

Tony for Japan?

During a recent visit by FIFA official Harry Cavan, it was revealed that Australia's top referee, Tony Boskovic, may officiate in the world youth championships in Japan in August this year.

Mr Cavan was non-committal on the appointment of Boskovic, but suggested that the FIFA referees' committee will certainly have our leading referee on the list of possibilities for the World Cup appointments.

Boskovic refereed during

the World Cup in Germany in 1974 and also was the leading referee during the ladies' World Cup played in Taiwan last year. Boskovic refereed the final of this tournament.

It would be an honor not only for Mr Boskovic, but also for Australia, to have our leading referee in Japan.

We are almost certain to gain the votes of the FIFA committee according to Mr Cavan, and should stage the third World Youth Cup in Australia in 1981. The initial World Youth Cup was held in Tunisia, and the second is to be held at the end of August this year in Japan.



Harry Cavan (FIFA)

Davidson OK

ADELAIDE CITY 2 (Deans, Northcote) SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 at Olympic Sports Field, Adelaide, crowd about 2000.

The only pleasing aspect about the game as far as South Melbourne is concerned was the good form of Australian youth international Alan Davidson.

Davidson, bought from Altona City for only \$1000, played for the full match.

Stuart Markland, the Sydney Olympic defender, was tried out but was not fit. South Melbourne president Sam Papasavvas has denied that the club intends to buy him.

Adelaide City used Chris Kent, its recruit from South Melbourne, but Basic replaced him in the second half.

Deane and Brian Northcote scored City's two goals.

PM's Cup draw

Newcastle KB United and Canberra City drew 2-2 in the first leg of their Prime Minister's Cup tie in Newcastle in the weekend.

The second leg will be played later in the season.

Goals by Ken Boden and Keith Harris gave Newcastle a 2-0 lead at half time but Canberra equalised with goals by Isaac Ferrell and Jim Cant.

Highlights of the game were shown on TV by NBN3 in Newcastle and CTC7 in Canberra.

Makedonia v Croatia

Preston Makedonia will play Essendon Croatia in a charity game on Moomba Monday (March 12).

Proceeds go to the Preston and Northcote Community Hospital (PANCH).

The game will be played at B. T. Connor Reserve, kick-off 3 p.m.

Paton wants to be a Socceroo

From page one

However, the fact that both Banovic and Cummings have signed contracts for this season may prove an obstacle to their ambitions.

A transfer for Cumming could involve the Department of Immigration, as Cumming hasn't yet been granted permanent residence in Australia has been given this responsibility for his welfare.

About a transfer for Banovic, Burin said his club had an agreement with Adelaide Croatia, Banovic's former club, that the goalkeeper should be transferred for not less than \$10,000 if he ever decides to leave Essendon. A large portion of that fee would go to Adelaide, Burin said.

He said Banovic was a better goalkeeper than Peter Laumets, who Makedonia sold to South Melbourne for \$15,000 and that Banovic was therefore worth more than \$15,000.

About Cumming, Burin said: "We paid \$6500 for him but his value has increased."

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West German striker Gerd Mueller (right) heads his country's third goal in its World Cup match with Australia in 1974.

Our training camp was as good as we'd seen anywhere in the world, and we really settled down there with more and more media coverage every day. However, the attitude of the West German media before our first game was a little patronising. They thought we're just the lambs for the slaughter. They soon found out different.

On free days the Australian team and I couldn't walk down street without being surrounded by soccer fans, who had organised me from the television and newspapers.

They all wanted to talk football, and get my autograph. However, the Australian team was mobbed wherever it went, so the camp was always visited callously and well-wishers increased.

I wondered what we were going to be in for during the next 45 minutes. I didn't have to wait long. Gerd Mueller put one in to make the score 3-0, but to our credit this was all they managed.

In fact Attila Abonyi was unlucky not to come home a rich man. He was on a substantial bonus running into thousands of dollars from Tiger shoes if he or Adrian Alison scored the first goal for Australia in the World Cup finals. Attila came very close to scoring.

During this match, I was put on number thirteen, a "little-known" player called Gerd Mueller. This was some task, and I felt proud when after the game he told newsmen that the marking of him had been hard, but fair.

During the game we had a chance to exchange a few words, and it really showed the difference between professional and part-time football.

One of the first things he asked me was how much I earned. He wanted to know how much I was getting for playing in the World Cup.

I told him the figure and he was quite shocked. He told me he earned that much for every day during the World Cup.

During the game, I felt West Germany was the best side in the World Cup, but as the final showed a few weeks later, Holland was the worthy opponent.

Franz Beckenbauer and I were matched a couple of times for television interviews, and I found him a very intelligent and approachable man.

One of the interviews we did was before the Australia/West German game. He told me confidentially (and two weeks later revealed to the public) that the team wasn't happy with their coach Helmut Schoen. They thought he was too restrictive, and kept them locked up in their camp too much, whereas the Dutch were allowed to have wives, girlfriends and family in with them.

On football he was a genius, which was obvious to anyone who watched him play. He knew everything about the game, and really deserved his title as "Kaiser" Franz.

Next week I'll talk about the kick off of the 1979 PSL season.

They scored two goals.

GEORGE CROSS 2 JUVENTUS 3**SLAVIA 1**

Scorers: Williams (Slav) 31st, Sodanaco (Geo) 40th, Mizzi (Geo) 53rd.
Ground: B. T. Connor Reserve.
Crowd: 2000.
Weather: Pleasant with breezes.

Referee: Les Hazlehurst
Cautions: Mifaud (Geo).
Ratings:
GEORGE CROSS: Matteson 7, Cutajar 6, Maitland 7, Wilkinson 8, Barron 8, Mifaud 6, Castello 5, Mirak 6, Sodanaco 6, Mizzi 6, Thom 6. Total: 70.
SLAVIA: McPherson 6, Thompson 8, Westley 6, Tuft 7, Shuttleworth 6 (Kinneir 63rd min), Brindie 6 (Monaghan 63rd min), Pye 5, Train 6, Williams 6, Paton 6, Aldridge 6. Total: 68.

The midfield play of George Cross and Slavia was very poor and as a result, the game never flowed and failed to provide entertainment.

In the first half the midfield was a scramble for the many loose balls. The midfield players were playing too close to each other but even when space was made, the passing was atrocious.

Slavia strikers Jim Paton and Steve Aldridge received a series of "hospital" balls, the type that centre halves love to see given.

On most occasions, the ball was ballooned forward at the front men and in the windy conditions the defenders once again didn't mind at all.

George Cross was no better, Brian Thom, Ray Mizzi and Steve Sodanaco all struggled to get into the game.

Billy Wilkinson was one George Cross player who tried to keep the ball on the deck and give "clean" passes and it was no surprise when he shifted from defence to midfield after the interval.

Derek Barron, the Cross left back, gave another sound display with his work as an attacker being a bonus. It was a great run by Barron down the left flank that set up George Cross' winning goal.

A goal by Slavia's Jim Williams four minutes before half time saved the game from being a dreary affair. Before Williams slammed home a rebound after Svez Matsson had saved a fierce Paton header, the players were lacklustre and lacked conviction.

George Cross came out after the break full of fight. The standard didn't improve but at least the tempo increased and the fans were kept awake.

George's comeback started when the Slavia defence lapsed and allowed a diagonal ball to be played through the penalty area.

Youngster Steve Sodanaco ghosted in on the far post to equalise with a left foot shot.

Thirteen minutes later George Cross was in front. A run by Barron saw Thom cut back a pass to Mizzi. His drive from 10 metres gave Alex McPherson no chance.

George Cross fully deserved its win on endeavour in the second half, but Slavia's performance was disappointing. The team's pattern of play hasn't been the same since an impressive first round effort against Frankston City.

Frank Thompson continued to show good form and often overlaps well. But apart from the Slavia full back, none of the other players showed much at all.

Jim Peperas was missing from the George Cross team and he's reported to have an injury.

Slavia used two newly-arrived players, Tony Kinneir and Brian Monaghan. — KYLE PATTERSON.

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SUNSHINE 0
HAKOAH 1

Scorers: J. Lucchesi 22nd, McGuinness 40th, Smith pon. 50th (Juve); G. Train 55th.
Ground: Olympic Park.
Weather: Mild.
Cautions: Lewis (Alt), Little (Alt), Berbia (Juve).
Referee: Mark Momont 6.
Ratings:
JUVENTUS: Terzini 7.5; Sabadini 6.5, Vaughan 6, Delta Rocca 6, Tarquinio 7; Smith 6, Berbia 7 (Sannipoli 45th); C. Lucchesi 8; McGuinness 7, Gillan 6, J. Lucchesi 7.5. Total: 74.5.
ALTONA: van der Pool 5.5; Lewis 6, Kelly 7.5, Murray 6, G. Train 6; Waters 5, Banagan 5, Hird 5; Ignatidis 5 (Dimovski 42nd), Little 7.5, Taylor 6 (injured, J. Little 52nd). Total: 64.5.

After three weeks of experimentation, Juventus coach Tony Baggi found a winning combination that played attractive soccer.

Juventus, featuring striker George Gillan, who had been bought from Fitzroy Alexander for \$3000, made a good start for his new club after substituting for Branko Bozinovski at half time. He created two good chances which could have sewn up the match long before the final whistle.

The first, which he finished himself, was just wide, while from the second he put Stuart Blair through with a deflection-splitting pass, but Blair hesitated and lost the chance.

The match was played in blustery conditions and this, aided by the uneven pitch, made good soccer difficult. Both defences were well on top, with Nick Whiteside the absolute master for Sunshine.

Early in the match, Sunshine keeper John Scholten fumbled the ball in saving a half-hit shot and Lee Nagy following up, directed the ball upwards only to be foiled by Mick Dixey who cleared off the line.

At the other end David Nelson caught Anton Dosen in possession and sent a cross into the area for a header by John McNally which Whiteside punched off.

Carlos Berbia, given a chance in midfield in the absence of injured Bruno Sabidussi, showed enough to warrant giving him further senior games. He is a skilful player who is also extremely tough.

Toughness is what Altona lacked in midfield. Nat Little in the left flank, and Kevin Kelly showed it in defence but in midfield, Altona did not have a ball winner.

Berbia and Kelly were on the verge of a punch-up early in the game, as Kelly turned and pushed Berbia who had clipped the heels of the Altona centre back.

In the 22nd minute, Berbia started the move that put Juventus into the lead. He played a long through pass for John Lucchesi to run onto. Altona goalkeeper Hans van der Poel managed to get at Lucchesi's shot, but the ball went into the net.

Referee Gaut tightened his discipline in the second half, sending off Stewart Gilmour for retaliating against French.

Earlier Robbie Nelson had been let off with a simple talking to for chopping down Jordano, while John Daperis was punished only with a free kick against for swinging a wild boot at David Nelson.

The match provided little entertainment-wise but Frank Micle's side worked as a unit and it will take a good side to unsettle them in the semi-finals. — PETER DESIRA

The top players

Leading averages:
 8 Johnson (Altona), Banovic (Croat) 7.5, Carr (Ajax) 7.5, Vojtek (Ajax), Beech (Mak).

7 Wark (Altona), Lowrey (Croat), Smith (Croat), Mitten (Franks), Wilkinson (Geo Cross), Mizzi (Geo Cross), Perkins (Ajax), Rakovalis (Hak), Nagy (Hak), C. Lucchesi (Juve), McMillan (Mak), Rainey (Mak).

7 Edwards (Croat), Spink (Croat), Adams (Franks), McClusky (Franks), Webster (Franks), G. Bannon (Franks), Coulson (Franks), Gibson (Hak), McGuinness (Juve), Thompson (Slavia), J. Train (Slavia), Garthwaite (Mak), Bernard (Mak), Lowe (Suns), Blair (Altona).

**VICTORIAN AMPOL CUP**

George Gillan, bought by Juventus from Fitzroy Alexander for \$3000, is closely guarded by Altona defenders George Train (left) and Keith Murray. Pictures by SAM BELFONTE.

Sunshine and Croydon in scramble for semi-finals

Sunshine City can sew up a semi finals berth if it defeats Croydon City at Olympic Park tonight (Wednesday).



Altona Rovers striker George Miller is foiled by Croatia goalkeeper Yakkia Banovic.



George Cross goalkeeper Svez Matsson.



Juventus forward Bobby McGuinness (left) fires at goal, past Harry Hird of Altona.

Top teams

Team aggregates:

1. Makedonia 304
2. GG Ajax 299.
3. Geo Cross 298.5
4. Frankston 293.5
5. Altona 285
6. Sunshine 278
7. Crotia 272.5
8. Altona 260.5
9. Croydon 216.5 =
10. Albion 209.5 =
11. Sunshine 206 =
12. Slavia 204 =

= game in hand.

Leading goalscorers: — 5 Mitten (Frankston), Carr (Ajac); 3 Cumming (Crot), Segi (Ajax); 2 Watters (Alt), G. Train (Alt), Wyllie (Croy), G. Bannon (Frankston), Mizzi (Geo Cross), Bozinovski (Hak), French (Hak), Smith (Juve).

STANDINGS
GROUP A

	W	D	F	A	Pts.
GG Ajax	3	1	10	5	6
Frankston	3	1	9	6	6
Croatia	2	2	5	5	4
Geo Cross	2	2	4	4	4
Slavia	1	2	2	4	2*
Altona	0	3	2	8	0

GROUP B

	W	D	F	A	Pts.
Hakoah	4	0	7	2	8
Croydon	2	1	5	3	4*
Makedonia	2	2	3	2	4
Sunshine	2	1	1	1	4*
Juventus	1	3	5	7	2
Altona	0	4	4	10	0

* game in hand.

Sunshine City's long-serving forward Kaz Piotrowski has transferred to Werribee in a deal that involves Werribee's Mike Paisley coming to Sunshine.

Craig Thompson, who played one senior game for Sunshine, switched to Werribee with Piotrowski. Sunshine was impressed with Paisley when he played in a recent practice match against Footscray J.U.S.T. He will be groomed by Sunshine coach Bill Walsh as a player of the future.

FRANKSTON 3 AJAX 2

CROATIA 2 ALBION 0

Scorers: Swinscoe 4, Webster 48, Mitten 67 (Frankston), Carr 6 & 70 (Gully).

Crowd: 400.
Ground: McClelland Drive, Frankston.
Referee: Nick Karlich 5.
Cautions: None.
Weather: Overcast, windy.

Ratings:
FRANKSTON: Petersen 5, V. Bannon 7, Adams 7, McCluskey 8, Campbell 6, Webster 7, G. Bannon 7, Brown 6.5, Mitten 8, Swinscoe 7, Coulson 6. Total: 74.5.

AJAX: Denys 5, J. Thompson 5 (Bennie 61st), Cain 7.5, Klarin 5, Patten 6, Vassallo 6, Vojtek 7, McCarthy 6, Segi 5, Carr 7, Perkin 6. Total: 65.5.

Keith Webster kept up his reputation as Green Gully Ajax's hoodoo man by notching Frankston's second killer goal straight from a corner kick.

Webster has now scored six goals in his six games against Gully since joining Frankston in April 1977, and the latest ranks as the softest of the lot.

His intended kick to Bob Adams at the near post was too high, and Lou Denys seemed in no danger as he went up on his own, but he was left holding thin air as the ball sailed into the net.

The goal made the score 2-1 and dampened Ajax's spirits completely.

Norris Campbell, standing in for Alec Tullio — injured in midweek in a friendly game against Doveton — hardly let Andy Segi have a kick. Ian McCarthy and Willie Vassallo gave away possession too easily in midfield, and the defence looked ragged with Mike Klarin unable to come to grips with Mitten, and Vince Bannon exposing the left side with very intelligent overlapping.

It only came as no surprise when Mitten increased the score through slack marking at the back. He ran onto Willie Coulson's free kick and was allowed a free header past Denys who helped by not coming off his line.

The first two goals were scored within minutes of the opening exchanges. Kevin Swinscoe opened his scoring account in Victorian soccer, netting from five yards after Jed Bannon's cross from the right fell nicely for him.

For Fully Billy Vojtek weaved past three defenders on the right flank before swinging the ball into the area for Carr to nod in the equaliser.

Carr also netted Gully's second on the death knock, punishing keeper Petersen, who dropped Perkin's corner and kept returning the ball instead of returning to his line.

But it was only a token goal and Gully looked set for a repetition of the inconsistent form which haunted them last season. Maybe Vojtek can wave his magic wand again. — PETER DESIRÉ.



KEVIN SWINSCOE (Frankston)

Prize for Croatia

Mr Harry Mrksa of General Tourist has put up a \$500 cash prize for the best player of Essendon Croatia this year.

Mr Mrksa will award 3-2-1 votes if the team loses, votes from 5 down if it draws and votes from 7 down if it wins.

All official games count for the award — Ampol Cup, Dockey Cup, State League Cup, Phillips Cup as well as championship matches.

General Tourist is situated at 365 Victoria Street, Abbotsford.

Scorers: Cumming (Croatia) 2, Bannister (Albion) 0.

Scorers: Cullen (Preston) 65th min.

Ground: Olympic Park.

Crowd: 1700.

Weather: Cool.

Referee: Jim Folkes 7.

Caution: Kerr (Croatia).

Goals: Kerr (Croatia).

Ratings:

ESSENDON CROATIA: Barovic 7, Smart 6, Cott 6, Kopeko 6, Adams 6, Murphy 5 (Gardiner 43rd min), Short 6, Franin 6 (Kerr 43rd min), Cumming 7, Gilder 7, Culina 6. Total: 70.

ALBION ROVERS: Johnson 8, Nisbet 6, Ward 8, Blair 7, Stoves 7, McNeil 7, Stevens 5, Gracean 6, D'Sylva 4, McInnes 5, Miller 6 (All Ali 57th min) Total: 65.

All is not well at Essendon Croatia, despite the team's 2-0 win over Albion Rovers.

* Star goalkeeper Yalda Bevan and award-winning forward Tommy Cumming have asked for transfers. The unofficial reports suggest John Gidman is more interested in joining Preston Makedonia, which made a bid for the former George Cross player a fortnight ago. (See separate story, page 1.)

On the field, Croatia is performing far below its capabilities.

It took Croatia 52 minutes to break down the Albion rearguard, and even then it was due to a baulk error by Billy McIntyre or Ali-

McIntyre, fading his own goal-trip to allow a long backward pass to goalkeeper Bill Johnson. But he succeeded only in laying on a perfect through ball for Croatia's Cumming.

Cumming controlled the ball, nipped into the area and played a one-two with Branko Culina. The return from Culina was spot on and the wee winger blasted the ball high into the net.

Had not McIntyre made the awful blunder, Albion may have had the luck and endurance to take the game to extra time.

But when a defence is under constant pressure like Albion's is, one goal plus the virtual end, Croatia wasn't in doubt of losing the game after opening its account but made hard work of getting its first goal.

Individually, Croatia's attackers played fairly well. Culina, playing as an attacking midfielder, was never picked up and caused a lot of trouble.

He had two shots from close range saved excellently by Johnson.

Cumming scored two goals, which is satisfying for any forward, but he contributed little else.

Not once did he get behind the defence and send over a telling cross, or take off on one of his nippy runs through the defence, which were a trademark of his play in the first half of 1978.

Jeff Faulkner twice showed he has the class to score a bagful of goals in the State League. He made razor-sharp turns to fire shots at Johnson after having his back to goal and a man on his tail.

His second-half effort left his marker Steven Blair flat-footed and his shot beat Johnson, the only problem being it hit the post and rebounded into the goalpost arms.

The Irish midfielder was denied the space to work in, and suddenly Roy Hamilton and Wyllie made their presence felt.

The inspiration with which Preston played was similar to Green Gully in its magic 5-1 win over Croatia.

Lowrey's absence as a predominant player was the biggest single factor in the downfall of Croydon.

The Irish midfielder was denied the space to work in, and suddenly Roy Hamilton and Wyllie made their presence felt.

The time was right for Joe Tront to take the responsibility of mobilising the Croydon team, but he never threatened Preston.

Hamilton's ability in the air and deft flick-ons would make sure Tront was an effective striker.

Croydon was exposed in defence, where the slowness of central pair Mike Sinclair and McCombe was evident.

For tonight's (Wednesday's) game against Sunshine City at Olympic Park, Croydon will have more defensive headaches.

McCombe is suspended and Alan Pongho still suffering from a back injury.

Preston's speed and mobility were impressive in the second half. The first half was tight and testing but after the interval Preston hit top gear.

The ball was zipped across the midfield with players running into spaces. Midfielders John Bernard, Eric Lesbirel and Petrovski found their way into the penalty area during attacks but Preston never lost its grip in the middle of the park.

Cullen's winner came after a cross from McMillan was knocked back by Bernard on the far post. McMillan, following up, flicked the ball to Cullen, who made no mistake. — KYLE PATTERSON

MAKEDONIA 1 CROYDON 0

Scorers: Cullen (Preston) 65th min.

Ground: B. T. Connor Reserve.

Crowd: 2000.

Weather: Pleasant with breeze.

Referee: B. Upjohn 7.

Caution: McCombe (Croatia).

Goals: Kerr (Croatia).

Ratings:

MAKEDONIA: Kastner 8, Rainey 9, Hooper 7, Garthwaite 7, Beach 8, Petrovski 8, Bernard 7, Lesbirel 7, Faulkner 8, McMillan 9, Cullen 6. Total: 86.

CROYDON: Edwards 8, Spine 7, Sinclair 6, McCombe 5, (sent off 62nd min), Kelly 5, Lomax 7, Trott 5, Smith 6, Kelly 6, Injured (Broghan 57th min), Hamilton 6, Wyllie 5. Total: 64.

With midfield ace Pat Lowrey eliminated as a danger, Preston Makedonia was able to break down Croydon City's pattern of play and dominate this match in the second half.

Indecisive finishing by Preston plus excellent goalkeeping by Mick Edwards kept Croydon alive at 0-0 until five minutes from the end when Robert Cullen side-footed home Makedonia's all-important goal.

Preston deserved to win by four goals with its outstanding team play after the interval.

Man of the match was George McMillan, whose final week seems to defy medical science with the way he takes knocks, but continues to play.

McMillan showed delicate skill for a big man, as well as fearless aggression.

McMillan's duel with Croydon's Steve McCombe was bone-crushing and often violent. McMillan emerged the victor, and McCombe the disgraced loser, being sent off after a vicious tackle on the Preston striker.

Earlier in the match, McCombe was booked for chopping down the Preston star.

Full back Mike Rainey gave Croydon's Wyllie a bath. Without Lowrey's precision passes, Wyllie was like a fish out of water. Rainey easily matched Wyllie for speed and was a stumbling block for Croydon on the right side.

Lube Petrovski mopped up everything on the right flank in midfield, and impressed with his tackling.

Jeff Faulkner was excellent, as was Steve Beech. Then there was Lou Kastner, with his vital save from Wyllie, and Dave Garthwaite and Eric Lesbirel in fact the entire Preston team. Every player, with the possible exception of Cullen, played his part to perfection.

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Georgio Penzo (centre, rear) with the Australian team that met China in Melbourne in 1957. Captain Joe Marston is pictured fourth from right. The forward line (front row, from left) is: Lolly Vella, Frankie Loughran, Pepe Cubero, Mike de Bruyckere, Ralph Piercy.

Penzo to lead

rebirth

of Juventus

This proposal was also accepted enthusiastically by the committee members.

The election of Penzo meant the exit of Vito Ciauro who had been called in as temporary chairman following the resignation of President Grandine.

Penzo, who had been team manager of Juventus since last year and remains in this post as well — was presented to the players as the new president at Thursday night's training.

Penzo is a great administrator and in different circumstances, he would be my choice as president," he said, "but now we have nothing to administer. We have to rebuild, start from scratch. We need a leader, a man of enthusiasm who can recreate enthusiasm around Juventus. That man is Penzo." — Paul Incalcaterra was the first to rise to the occasion and was presented to the players as the new president at Thursday night's training.

Juventus now has a popular president, three strikers, a defender and a totally new spirit right through its organisation and following it is a totally new Juventus," aiming at the top of national soccer.

Penzo has a popular president, three strikers, a defender and a totally new spirit right through its organisation and following it is a totally new Juventus," aiming at the top of national soccer.

The reception he received was further proof that Incalcaterra made the right choice.

"We will not hesitate to axe players who continue to take advantage of the club," he said.

Burnin admitted that a group of players was separating itself from the rest of the squad.

"We will not tolerate the excessive demands of some players. The club is getting

Penzo is one of the most talented goalkeepers to have worn the Juventus colors. He arrived in Australia in 1956 and played in the black and white for two years before transferring to Geelong, another club sponsored by the Italian community.

While at Geelong, Penzo gained selection to the Victorian State team and to the national team.

In following years, he moved on to Polonia, Hellas, Juventus again and finally to Makedonia where he played his last State League game at the age of 35.

He then moved to minor teams and just began to play the game he loved.

He won three championships with the Italian-backed clubs Libertas, Triestina and Azzurri (now Fawkner) until he was 42 years of age.

Only a month ago, at 46, he took the field again with Juventus' reserves in the "Sister Cup" in Geelong when the regular keeper failed to arrive. Juventus won that game 3-2.

And behind the scene, secretary Rocco Di Zio is working over time in preparing a comprehensive plan for the financial and organisational rebirth of Juventus. The plan will be announced the first Saturday of next month during the "President's Gala Ball".

Shocks for Korea and Bayern

Mighty South Korea, long Australia's fiercest rival in Asia, was beaten 2-1 by Japan in a shock result in Tokyo at the weekend.

The two nations have been playing regularly in pre-tournament tournaments for the past seven years.

Japan led 2-0 at half time after goals by Miroslav Usui in the 21st minute and Kazuyoshi Nakamura in the 26th minute.

South Korea scored through Oh Such-Jae three minutes from the end.

In another upset result in Tunis, the Tunisian national team held Bayern Munich to a scoreless draw in a friendly match.

Algeria beat Turkey 1-0 in Bursa, Turkey, and in the European youth championship qualifying series, England beat Italy 1-0 in Rome, after an own goal by Italy's Secchi.

Como Cup

Eight teams will contest the annual Como Cup at Como Park from 10 am on Monday, March 12.

Defending champion is Park Rangers.

The other contestants are Prahran City, South Yarra, Heidelberg, Richmond, Greensborough, Moorabbin and Nunawading.

Wanderers take title

Defending champions the Wanderers retained the Kensington (Vic.) title with a five-a-side title beating Red Devils 10-9 in the final.

With the score at 8-8 close to the end, Matheson picked up a loose ball in his own half and easily beat two players before casually placing the ball past goalkeeper Steve Vujic.

Thirty seconds from time Foldes made it 10-8 from a narrow angle.

Squad:

WANDERERS: G. Murray, S. Morrison, Jim Siford, John Siford, B. Vujic, G. Berakakis, J. Timpano, S. Foldes, F. Cash.

RED DEVILS: S. Vujic, M. Atalagic, B. Stoycevski, V. Stoycevski, M. Ristovski, C. Trikovski.

Referees' votes for the best and fairest in the competition went to Slav Pekajic of third-place team Mean Machine.

CROATIA STARS GET WARNING

Club manager Frank Burin has warned that Essendon Croatia will stand firm against its rebelling players.

"The players are hoping to live off last season's success, but if they don't pull up, their socks we will take strong action," he said.

"We will not hesitate to axe players who continue to take advantage of the club," he said.

Burnin admitted that a group of players was separating itself from the rest of the squad.

"We will not tolerate the excessive demands of some players. The club is getting

Burns Cup, but the Keilor team was a different proposition in this Dockerty Cup tie.

Fawkner fans were furious after the referee had sent off Tony "Skipper" Schiappa, the star was Simonides with a hot trick aided by a header from Peter Lovewell, who scored the other goal.

Keilor was steam-rolled in the first half, but buckled down to the task after the interval.

Slowly Rovers gained the upper hand, and goals from Keith Humble, Trevor Teer, Segul brought Doncaster to within a goal of City. However, time was out for Doncaster, and Keilor gained ample revenge for its defeat last week.

Best for Rovers was Alan Copeland.

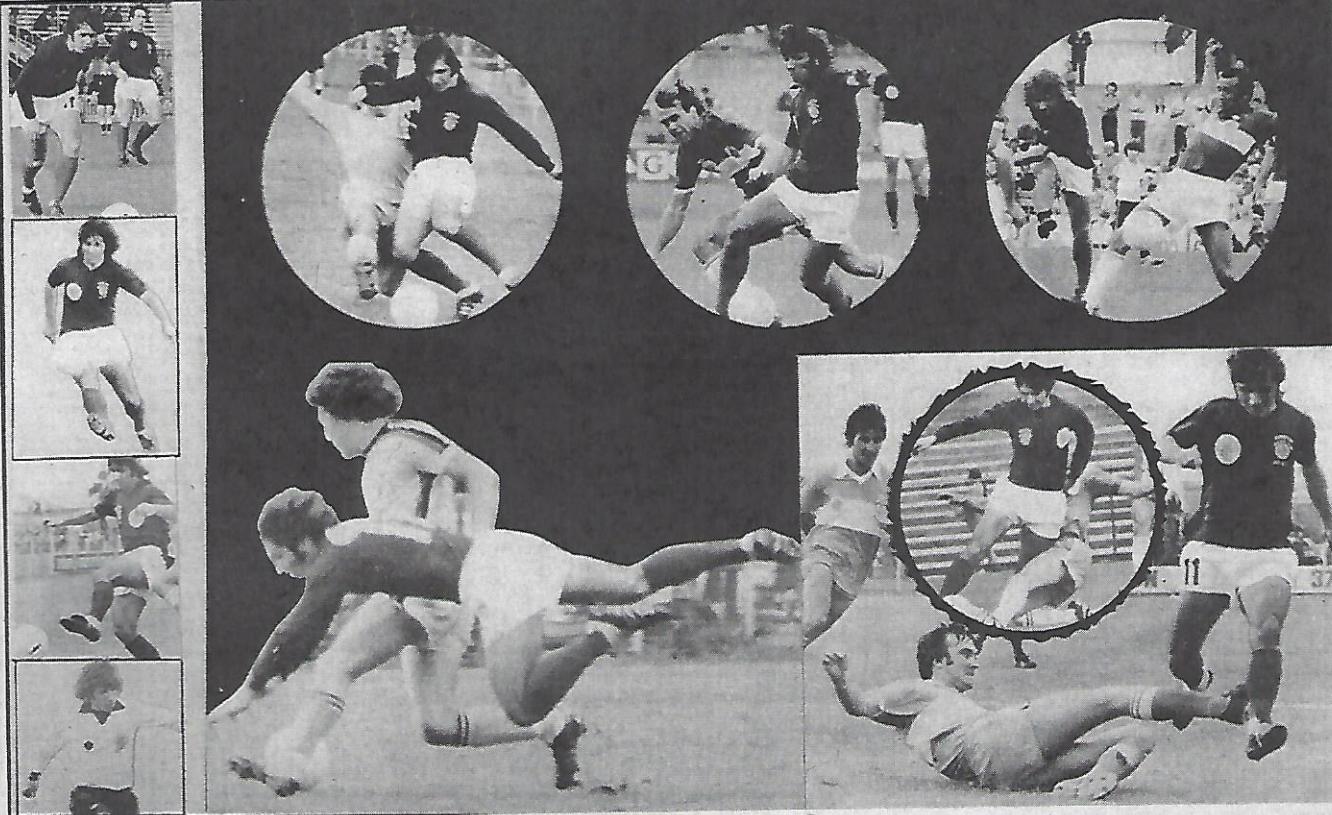
In the JNB Trophy competition, Doncaster's reserve team, filling in for the senior side, went down 2-0 to Knic City, but Doncaster has qualified for the semi-finals and will play Croton City on Saturday.

The abandoned game at Fawkner rounded off a topsy-turvy weekend for Doncaster.

The club's under 13 team made a good start in the junior Ampol Cup, defeating Ringwood City 3-1 and drawing with the powerful Mooroolbark 2-2.

David Azzopardi scored three of the team's five goals on the weekend. The young Rovers must defeat Morell Falcone this weekend to qualify for the semi-finals.

Quarter final results: Ringwood City 3 (Kunig, Broadmeadows 0 after extra time and Western Suburbs 1). Park Ranger 1 (Kunig, Pegasus 0, Frankies Pines 2, S. Oak, G. Cleary, D. O. Melb, 1, Hamlyn, E. Keays, 1, Broadmeadows 0, Bell 2, Bent 2, Bent 3, Moles 1, Bent 1, Springate 1). Bent 3 (Kunig, Pegasus 0, Frankies Pines 2, S. Oak, G. Cleary, D. O. Melb, 1, Hamlyn, E. Keays, 1, Broadmeadows 0, Bell 2, Bent 2, Bent 3, Moles 1, Bent 1, Springate 1). Bent 4 (Port Melb, 3, Broadmeadows 0, Bent 1, Bent 2, Bent 3, Bent 4, Bent 5, Bent 6, Bent 7, Bent 8, Bent 9, Bent 10, Bent 11, Bent 12, Bent 13, Bent 14, Bent 15, Bent 16, Bent 17, Bent 18, Bent 19, Bent 20, Bent 21, Bent 22, Bent 23, Bent 24, Bent 25, Bent 26, Bent 27, Bent 28, Bent 29, Bent 30, Bent 31, Bent 32, Bent 33, Bent 34, Bent 35, Bent 36, Bent 37, Bent 38, Bent 39, Bent 40, Bent 41, Bent 42, Bent 43, Bent 44, Bent 45, Bent 46, Bent 47, Bent 48, Bent 49, Bent 50, Bent 51, Bent 52, Bent 53, Bent 54, Bent 55, Bent 56, Bent 57, Bent 58, Bent 59, Bent 60, Bent 61, Bent 62, Bent 63, Bent 64, Bent 65, Bent 66, Bent 67, Bent 68, Bent 69, Bent 70, Bent 71, Bent 72, Bent 73, Bent 74, Bent 75, Bent 76, Bent 77, Bent 78, Bent 79, Bent 80, Bent 81, Bent 82, Bent 83, Bent 84, Bent 85, Bent 86, Bent 87, Bent 88, Bent 89, Bent 90, Bent 91, Bent 92, Bent 93, Bent 94, Bent 95, Bent 96, Bent 97, Bent 98, Bent 99, Bent 100, Bent 101, Bent 102, Bent 103, Bent 104, Bent 105, Bent 106, Bent 107, Bent 108, Bent 109, Bent 110, Bent 111, Bent 112, Bent 113, Bent 114, Bent 115, Bent 116, Bent 117, Bent 118, Bent 119, Bent 120, Bent 121, Bent 122, Bent 123, Bent 124, Bent 125, Bent 126, Bent 127, Bent 128, Bent 129, Bent 130, Bent 131, Bent 132, Bent 133, Bent 134, Bent 135, Bent 136, Bent 137, Bent 138, Bent 139, Bent 140, Bent 141, Bent 142, Bent 143, Bent 144, Bent 145, Bent 146, Bent 147, Bent 148, Bent 149, Bent 150, Bent 151, Bent 152, Bent 153, Bent 154, Bent 155, Bent 156, Bent 157, Bent 158, Bent 159, Bent 160, Bent 161, Bent 162, Bent 163, Bent 164, Bent 165, Bent 166, Bent 167, Bent 168, Bent 169, Bent 170, Bent 171, Bent 172, Bent 173, Bent 174, Bent 175, Bent 176, Bent 177, Bent 178, Bent 179, Bent 180, Bent 181, Bent 182, Bent 183, Bent 184, Bent 185, Bent 186, Bent 187, Bent 188, Bent 189, Bent 190, Bent 191, Bent 192, Bent 193, Bent 194, Bent 195, Bent 196, Bent 197, Bent 198, Bent 199, Bent 200, Bent 201, Bent 202, Bent 203, Bent 204, Bent 205, Bent 206, Bent 207, Bent 208, Bent 209, Bent 210, Bent 211, Bent 212, Bent 213, Bent 214, Bent 215, Bent 216, Bent 217, Bent 218, Bent 219, Bent 220, Bent 221, Bent 222, Bent 223, Bent 224, Bent 225, Bent 226, Bent 227, Bent 228, Bent 229, Bent 230, Bent 231, Bent 232, Bent 233, Bent 234, Bent 235, Bent 236, Bent 237, Bent 238, Bent 239, Bent 240, Bent 241, Bent 242, Bent 243, Bent 244, Bent 245, Bent 246, Bent 247, Bent 248, Bent 249, Bent 250, Bent 251, Bent 252, Bent 253, Bent 254, Bent 255, Bent 256, Bent 257, Bent 258, Bent 259, Bent 260, Bent 261, Bent 262, Bent 263, Bent 264, Bent 265, Bent 266, Bent 267, Bent 268, Bent 269, Bent 270, Bent 271, Bent 272, Bent 273, Bent 274, Bent 275, Bent 276, Bent 2



Footscray JUST's ace winger Mendo Ristovski can now look back on the days when he was labelled the "teenage superstar" and remember the enormous pressure he faced when playing.

Like so many others who made a name for themselves at an early age, Ristovski found it hard to adjust and go from the budding youngster to the established senior.

Living up to other people's expectations places a heavy strain on young players.

"When I came into the JUST first team as a 16-year-old," said Mendo, "there was a lot of pressure on me. People were telling me to do this or do that and it made it very hard."

"I was always expected to do something outstanding. I could play a good game but unless I scored a great goal or beat my marker all the time, the supporters would think I played badly."

"And when I was going through a bad patch it was even worse. Sometimes things just don't go right and there's not much you can do."

Ristovski's problems started when he made a brilliant debut in 1972. His performance stunned the fans, but set a high level for Mendo to maintain.

Ristovski remembers his first game well.

"I played only three or four games in the reserve team before being promoted," said Mendo. "I virtually went from under 16 to State League first in one jump."

"But my first game was fantastic. It's still my most memorable match."

Mendo played alongside JUST greats Branko Buljevic, Frank Micic, Dan Zoraja and Jimmy Milisavljevic, players Mendo had watched and idolised in years previous.

His first match was against South Melbourne Hellas at Olympic Park in the 1972 Victorian State League Cup.

The result was a 0-0 draw.

"I was very nervous at the start," said Mendo, "but settled down once we got going."

"I had a great game," he continued, full of typical Ristovski self-confidence, and never stopped running."

Buljevic was sent off in that match, just after half time, making JUST's performance more creditable.

In the return match a week later at Middle Park, Ristovski stole the stage and won the hearts of JUST fans.

Ristovski was again outstanding, but his moment of glory came after extra time. A 1-1 scoreline was the result after the battle, and penalties were needed.

With the penalty showdown tied up, JUST had one penalty remaining. The fans were wondering who was going to take the vital kick.

Ristovski was the one, and with the coolness of a player of great experience, he slotted home the penalty to win the game for Footscray.

You can see why the Footscray fans expected a lot from young Ristovski in the years to come!

"The following season I found out a few things the hard way," he said. "I was injured and missed a couple of games and had to work to regain fitness and form."

He battled through the difficult period and now has a far more relaxed attitude towards soccer.

"The pressure is gone," he said. "I play my own game and don't care

one bit about others trying to tell me what to do."

"I'm part of the team and I try to do my best every game. I'm out to do well for Footscray JUST and myself, but I don't worry about any supporters who expect more from me."

Mendo knows why he was able to break away from the pressures of old.

"Branko Buljevic gave me the start," said Mendo. "We used to play on the same side of the field and got a pretty good understanding of each other. We could really get going during a match."

"Because of that, I felt part of the team."

Buljevic left JUST in 1977 to join Fitzroy Utd. The transfer fee was \$12,000.

The second thing that helped Mendo was the emergence of Zoran Ilicic and Joe Picioane in the Footscray team.

"When I first came into the team," he said, "the next youngest player was Jimmy Milisavljevic. He was 24 but I was only 16, meaning there was a big gap. For a few years I was stranded as the kid of the team."

"But over the past few years, Ilicic and Pici have become established in the team. When they first came in, it meant I was no longer the youngest and least experienced."

There was never any doubt that Ristovski would become an established player. Critics will say he has stagnated over the past few seasons but the super-confident, cheeky Mendo has no doubts about his ability.

The compact winger was born in Bitola, Yugoslavia, on February 2, 1956.

He played no competitive soccer in his homeland but served his apprenticeship in village streets.

When eight years old, Ristovski and his family came to Australia. Even then, he didn't go straight into soccer. Joining JUST was an accident.

"For some reason my father didn't want me to play soccer," said Mendo. "On weekends I always got up early and went walking. One Sunday morning I saw a friend from school walking with a sports bag. I asked where he was going and he said to Footscray Park to play with JUST."

"I tagged along and at the ground I met Zlata Nikolic, who was looking after Footscray's juniors."

Nikolic, who has started the careers of many fine JUST layers, invited young Mendo to play.

"I didn't have any boots," said Mendo, "so I played in my sandals. I scored two goals and joined the club the next week."

Ristovski, who has been with JUST nearly 14 years, progressed through the club's junior teams.

Along the way, he came under the eye of several fine coaches.

"In under 12, I was coached by Cedo Cirkovic, current JUST first team coach," said Mendo. "The following year, Rale Basic coached me. Both Rale and Ciro were involved in the seniors, but found time to coach junior teams as well."

"Milos Adamovic was my coach between under 13 and under 15. All three helped me tremendously."

Mendo first played in the reserves at Footscray while still at under 15 level. Then came the jump from under 16 to senior soccer.

After bursting into soccer with such a great impact, Ristovski's career has been followed closely. So far he has made two appearances in Socceroo colors, but clearly he is a player of the future.

"I played against Hong Kong in Canberra in 1976," said Mendo, "but the Australian team wasn't a good one. It was selected hurriedly and was aimed at giving experience to players."

Australia lost 1-0.

Last season Ristovski was given a better idea of international soccer when selected in the Australian XI to face Greece at Olympic Park, Melbourne.

In front of 25,000 fans, Australia lost 2-1.

"I didn't play as well as I would have liked," said Ristovski, "but it was good to be involved in the match. I settled down OK, but I would like to have done more playing in front of my home crowd."

And what about future Australian selection for Mendo Ristovski?

"Many players are going all-out to get a place in the Australian team for the 1982 World Cup bid," said Mendo. "I would love to be selected but it's not everything. I'll continue playing my own way and hopefully the coach will pick me. If I'm good enough I'll be in."

After a six-year career in top soccer, Mendo has discovered all the drawbacks.

"The biggest drag is getting injured," he said. "You can be playing well, then come an injury. You go out of the team and in most cases lose fitness. From then on it's a fight to get back to your best."

"I get a lot of trouble from a knee injury. Last season I missed six weeks, and in 1977 I was out for six weeks. My ligaments are bad, and if I get a heavy knock the injury will flare up. It's very frustrating."

As a winger, it's Ristovski's job to take on and beat his full back. He's successful at this, but there's one man Mendo finds harder to beat than most.

"Jim Tansey is my most difficult opponent," said Mendo. "He plays very hard, and even if you get past him he will bring you down. You lose confidence if your legs are taken from under you a couple of times."

Mendo emphasised that the art of dribbling past an opponent depends a lot on good fortune.

"Sometimes you can glide past the full back all day," he said, "but on occasions it just doesn't work out. The ball can take a bad bounce, or a leg will cause a lucky deflection."

Ristovski, an accountancy student, sees his role in the JUST team being as fairly straightforward.

"Wingers are there to take the ball down the line," he said, "then get in a cross. Now that we have Peter Olleron, the crosses can be high or low. We haven't had a forward with his height or heading ability since Buljevic left."

JUST is shaping up for a good year and Ristovski is confident of success.

"We haven't had a lot of luck in the past two seasons," he said, "but I think it's about to change. The atmosphere is great and there's competition for a place in the team. Everybody is trying their hardest to win a place."

"If we can avoid injuries, JUST will be up with the leaders."

Mendo Ristovski, seen through the camera of SAM BELFONTE. Some of his opponents, pictured here, are Marconi's Mark Jankovics (top, second from right), Ivo Prskalo of Marconi (top right) and Eddie Thomson of Sydney City (bottom right).

Tansey my toughest

opponent

— Ristovski

By KYLE PATTERSON

HAMPTON WANDERERS

(DISTRICT LEAGUE DIV. 1)

COACH and PLAYERS WANTED

Remuneration Negotiable

Contact, STAN WABINSKI
95 5410 Bus, 700 1324 A.H.

Philips League Club Directory

ADELAIDE CITY

G.P.O. BOX 1262L, ADELAIDE, 5001 (08) 332 5614

SECRETARY: G. Ursini (08) 31 0778

COACH: R. Rasic

GROUND: Olympic Sports Field, Kensington
(08) 31 1844.

COLOURS: Black & White.

This week's match: v BRISBANE CITY at Olympic Sports field (Adelaide), Sunday 2.30 pm.



BRISBANE CITY

P. O. Box 265 Broadway, Brisbane 4001

Club phone: 356 8834

SECRETARY: G. Ganale bus (07) 52 4711.

COACH: N. Saftich.

GROUND: Perry Park, Abbotsford Rd., Mayne.

SPONSOR: MONTROSE WINES

This week's match: v Adelaide City at OLYMPIC SPORTS FIELD (Adelaide) Sunday 2.30 pm.



FITZROY UNITED

P.O. BOX 8, COLLINGWOOD, 3066

SECRETARY: A. Loustas

COACH: J. Margaritis.

GROUND: Olympic Park Swan St. Melb. (03)
42 0642.

COLOURS: Black & Gold.

* GIRLS WHO WISH TO TAKE PART IN MISS ALEXANDER QUEST SHOULD CONTACT THE SECRETARY.

This week's match: v ST GEORGE at Olympic Park (Melbourne), Monday 3 pm.



NEWCASTLE KB UNITED

4 NORTHWOOD ST., ADAMSTOWN HEIGHTS, N.S.W., 2289

SECRETARY: P. Trisley, Bus. (049) 24930 (049) 26 2433

COACH: A. Vest

GROUND: International Sports Centre, Turton Rd.,
New Lambton. Ph (049) 52 1224

SPONSOR: Tooth & Co., Brewers of KB Beer

This week's match: v SOUTH MELBOURNE at International Sports Centre (Newcastle), Sunday 3 pm.



SOUTH MELBOURNE

P.O. BOX 64, ST. KILDA WEST, VIC., 3182

SECRETARY: N. Sagiakos, Bus (03) 211 1247

MANAGER: D. MacLaren

GROUND: Middle Park, Aughtie Drive, Middle Park

COLOURS: Blue & White

This week's match: v NEWCASTLE KB UNITED at International Sports Centre (Newcastle), Sunday 3 pm.



WEST ADELAIDE

G.P.O. BOX 1130, ADELAIDE S.A., 5001

SECRETARY: D. A. Carapetis, Bus. (08) 227 4311.

COACH: T. Forde.

GROUND: Hindmarsh Stadium, Manton St., Hindmarsh.

This week's match: v A.P.I.A. LEICHHARDT at Marconi Oval (Sydney) Friday 8 pm.



A.P.I.A. LEICHHARDT

38-42 FRAZER ST., LEICHHARDT 4040.

SECRETARY: H. Ambrose (02) 516 1688

COACH: J. Adam.

GROUND: Wentworth Park, Glebe.
Phone (02) 660 7431.

COLOURS: Burgundy & Sky Blue.

This week's match: v WEST ADELAIDE at Marconi Oval (Sydney) Friday 8 pm.



BRISBANE LIONS

15 DELPHINUS ST., INALA, QLD. 4077

SECRETARY: S. Boegheim (07) 277 1733

COACH: A. Spearritt.

GROUND: Perry Park, Abbotsford Rd.,
Mayne. (07) 52 5328.

SPONSOR: Kentucky Fried Chicken

COLOURS: All Orange with Blue Stripe.

This week's match: v SYDNEY CITY at Perry Park (Brisbane), Friday 8 pm



CANBERRA CITY

P.O. Box 910, Canberra City 2600

SECRETARY: David Dillon 48 8917 (W) 54 1787 (L)

COACH: V. Fernandez

GROUND: National Athletic Stadium, Bruce

SPONSOR: BRIAN POLLOCK Ford



This week's match: v MARCONI at National Athletic Stadium (Canberra) Sunday 2.30 pm.

FOOTSCRAY

P.O. BOX 122, ST KILDA SOUTH, 3182

SECRETARY: H. Iser bus (03) 391 3231

COACH: C. Cirkovic

GROUND: Olympic Park

COLOURS: Blue White Red.

SPONSOR:
JAT
YUGOSLAV AIRLINES



This week's match: v SYDNEY OLYMPIC at Barton Park (Sydney), Saturday 3 pm.

MARCONI

MARCONI ROAD, BOSSLEY PARK, N.S.W. 2176

SECRETARY: L. Sartoretto (02) 604 5222.

COACH: L. Scheinflug.

GROUND: Marconi Oval, Marconi Rd.,
Bossley Park.



This week's match: v CANBERRA at National Athletic Stadium (Canberra), Sunday 2.30 pm.

ST. GEORGE

84 VICTORIAN AVENUE, MORTDALE, N.S.W.

GENERAL MANAGER: L. Boracs (02) 269 2745.

COACH: J. Gelei.

GROUND: Barton Park, Rockdale.

COLOURS: White, Red & Green.



This week's match: v FITZROY UNITED at Olympic Park N. Smilas (Bus) (02) 72 0661.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

BOX A181 SYDNEY SOUTH, N.S.W., 2000

SECRETARY: N Smilas (Bus) (02) 72 0661.

COACH: J. Marston.

GROUND: Pratton Park, Ashfield.

SPONSOR: optra



This week's match: v FOOTSCRAY at Barton Park (Sydney) Saturday 3 pm.

SYDNEY CITY

61 HALL ST., BONDI, NSW.

SECRETARY: H. K. Lakmaker (02) 30 3344
(Mornings).
663 4576 (Afternoons).

COACH: G. Chaldi.

GROUND: Wentworth Park Glebe, NSW
Phone (02) 660 7431.



This week's match: v BRISBANE LIONS at Perry Park (Brisbane), Friday 8 pm.